

showed signs of breeding. Fully developed broken eggs were taken from two of the birds. Two specimens were taken at East Pass on Apr. 2. Many more birds might have been secured. The Snowy Plover was the most common of the shore birds at the localities named.—Geo. K. CHERRIE, *Field Museum, Chicago, Ill.*

Buteo albicaudatus in Arizona.—While driving across the desert between Florence and Red Rock, Arizona, a large nest upon which a Hawk was sitting was noticed close by the road. The nest was built in a mesquite tree and but ten feet from the ground.

The bird remained on the nest until I approached within easy gun shot. From the gray appearance of its head I at once took it for *Buteo swainsoni* and refrained from shooting it. A wave of the hand started the bird, which left the nest from the opposite side. As soon as the bird came in full view I realized my error, and hastily fired a shot after it; as the load was a light one, the bird flew away minus but a few feathers. I have seen in life and in their native wilds twenty-six species of our Hawk family, twenty of which I have taken, but this was a new one to me—a Hawk which I had never seen before.

Its white tail, including the rump, with broad terminal band of black, chestnut shoulders, gray head, and light colored breast with a few dark markings, and its size, which equals that of *Buteo borealis*, puts to rest all doubt but that the bird was *Buteo albicaudatus*.

Being so far from its ascribed range, I have looked up all of the available history bearing upon this species, and so far as I can learn no specimens have been taken in the United States outside of a small portion of the southern corner of Texas.

After leaving the nest the Hawk flew to the dead top of a mesquite, a quarter of a mile away. I started after it at once, hoping that I might yet secure the parent of the egg which I had just taken. I had crossed probably one fourth of the intervening distance, when the bird arose with powerful strokes of its wings, circling upward until but a speck in the sky. I could not tarry long in hope of securing the bird, and with much reluctance the journey was resumed. The distance between Florence and Red Rock is almost forty miles, between which places no water fit for man or beast is to be found.

The egg taken was far advanced in incubation. In size, shape and color it resembles one of the lighter unmarked eggs of *Buteo borealis*. —GEORGE F. BRENINGER, *Phoenix, Arizona.*

Additional Records of the Flammulated Owl (*Megascops flammeola*) in Colorado.—On the 27th of May, 1897, I secured a set of two fresh eggs, and on the 29th a set of three eggs slightly incubated, of the Flammulated Screech Owl, and in both cases secured the female bird. The first set was secured in an old Woodpecker's hole in an old pine stub, about eighteen feet from the ground, at an altitude of about 7200 feet,

and the other in a dead quaking ash about twenty feet from the ground and at an altitude of about 7800 feet.

In neither case was there any nest built, the eggs being deposited on the litter at the bottom of the hole. Diligent search did not secure the male birds.

These nests were in the foothills about thirty miles nearly west southwest from Pueblo, Colorado.—D. P. INGRAHAM, *Beulah, Colorado*.

Nesting of the Short-eared Owl in Southern California.—On March 27, 1896, Mr. H. L. Rivers and the writer found a nest of this bird (*Asio accipitrinus*) containing six eggs, the incubation varying from very slight to well advanced. The location was near low meadow ground about five miles from the coast in this County, but the nest was about twenty-six feet up in the top of a thick-foliaged oak, among some sycamores bordering a dry stream bed. Another unoccupied nest was placed two or three feet higher in the opposite side of the same tree. Both nests were composed of sticks, lined with oak leaves and a few feathers, the depression in each being very slight.

When within a few feet of the occupied nest the bird flew off and being joined by its mate, the pair held a 'pow wow' in the grass, uttering squeals like a rat. While the nest was being examined one bird perched almost at arm's length in the foliage of the tree.

Two weeks later, when I revisited the locality, neither bird was seen, but the nest, which had previously been empty, contained a dried up egg without a shell.

Of this bird Captain Bendire said "it is not improbable that it may sometimes breed in California and Nevada."—M. L. WICKS, JR., *Los Angeles, Cal.*

Partnership Nesting of Valley Partridge and Long-tailed Chat.—The nest was discovered by a little girl, and was composed of grass and straws placed in a small depression of the ground above which it projected slightly; over all was a dead eucalyptus limb to which the dry leaves still clung. The locality was this County, within five feet of a road which had been quite frequently traveled up to a week before, at which time the road had been changed. Not thirty feet from the spot a cluster of wild blackberry vines had been burnt down a few months previous; in them a Chat (*Icteria virens longicauda*), probably the same one, had nested for years.

The Partridge (*Callipepla californica vallicola*) was flushed from the nest when first discovered; it had been covering two of its own and three Chat eggs, the Chat itself not being seen. On a second visit that afternoon the Chat flew off; the Partridge was not visible. The next day at noon a third trip was made; the Chat was on the nest, the female Partridge being in the vicinity. The number of Chat eggs had been increased to four; the Partridge eggs were still two in number.—M. L. WICKS, JR., *Los Angeles, Cal.*